

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02
INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02 PRS-01 SP-02
SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-10 NASA-02 OES-07 ERDA-07
NRC-07 MC-02 DHA-02 IO-14 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00
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-----094033 270622Z /20

R 270314Z JUN 77
FM AMEMBASSY TEHRAN
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3248
INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA
AMEMBASSY ATHENS
AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS
AMEMBASSY CAIRO
AMEMBASSY NICOSIA
AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMCONSUL ISTANBUL

UNCLAS TEHRAN 5623

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: OTRA, SOPN
SUBJECT: NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY VISIT
TO IRAN

1. QUOTED BELOW IN PARA THREE IS NCAFP'S EVENING JUNE 25 PRESS
RELEASE AFTER TEHRAN VISIT WHICH BASICALLY DESCRIBES GROUP'S
PROGRAM HERE.

2. GROUP WAS BRIEFED BY FONOFF ACTING HEAD OF POL SECTION PRIOR
VISIT WITH SHAH, AND SIX MEMBERS OF GROUP LED BY AMB. DUKE
AND JEFFREY ENDERVELT DEBRIEFED AMBASSADOR AFTER AUDIENCE.
GROUP PLEASED BY TREATMENT HERE, AND APPRECIATED GOI
SCHEDULING EFFORTS WHICH, WHILE SOMEWHAT AD HOC, MANAGED MOST
IMPORTANT BRIEFINGS. SEVERAL MEMBERS OF GROUP INDICATED GROUP
AS A WHOLE NOW UNDERSTOOD DYNAMICS OF IRAN'S STRATEGIC
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RELATIONSHIPS MUCH BETTER, AND PLANNED TO SPREAD THIS
KNOWLEDGE AROUND WHEN THEY RETURNED TO U.S.

3. PRESS RELEASE: QUOTE. THE SHAH OF IRAN TODAY
DISCUSSED THE SALE OF THE F-18 FIGHTERS, THE NUCLEAR NON-
PROLIFERATION TREATY AND THE WORLD ENERGY CRISIS FOR NEARLY
TWO HOURS AT THE WHITE PALACE WITH A FACT FINDING DELEGATION

OF THE NATIONAL COMMITTEE ON AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY UNDER THE CHAIRMANSHIP OF FORMER AMBASSADOR ANGLIER BIDDLE DUKE AND CO-CHAIRMAN JEFFREY K. ENDERVELT, A NEW YORK LAWYER AND BUSINESS EXECUTIVE. DURING THE MEETING, THE SHAH, CONTRARY TO GENERAL PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING ON THE QUESTION OF THE SALE OF THE F-18'S TO IRAN, WHICH HAVE NOT YET BEEN BUILT, SURPRISED THE DELEGATION BY EXPLAINING THAT, "YES, WE WOULD LIKE TO PURCHASE THE F-18L WHICH IS THE LAND VERSION OF THE NAVY F-18, BUT WE HAVE ALWAYS TOLD THE COMPANY (NORTHROP) AND YOUR COUNTRY THAT WE WON'T TAKE ANYTHING THAT IS NOT IN YOUR INVENTORY."

THE SHAH WENT ON TO EMPHASIZE THAT THE SALE OF THE F-18 WAS NOT AN ISSUE WHICH AFFECTED RELATIONS BETWEEN THE U.S. AND HIS COUNTRY", BECAUSE AS HE EXPLAINED"...IF WE ORDERED 250 F-18L'S AND ONLY 250 WERE MANUFACTURED THEN WHAT ARE WE GOING TO DO FOR SPARE PARTS."

THE COMMITTEE FURTHER ELICITED THE SHAH'S PRECEPTIONS OF THE DEVELOPING WORLD ENERGY SITUATION. AMONG HIS POINTS HE FORECAST THAT "BY 1980 WORLD DEMAND FOR OIL WILL BE SUCH THAT THERE WILL BE A TREMENDOUS SHORTAGE OF FUEL." THE SHAH, FURTHER, PROJECTED THAT BY 1984 "...THE PRICE OF OIL WILL BE \$28 PER BARREL."

IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION BY MR. ENDERVELT REGARDING THE SPREAD OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY THE SHAH STATED THAT AS FOR IRAN, "WE ARE A SIGNATOR OF THE NON-PROLIFERATION TREATY. WE ARE NOT LOOKING FOR UNCLASSIFIED

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ATOMIC WEAPONS. OUR MILITARY STRATEGY IS NOT BASED ON THIS."

DURING THE LENGTHY MEETING THE SHAH ALSO GAVE HIS VISITORS HIS VIEWS ON THE ARAB-ISRAELI CRISIS, HUMAN RIGHTS, AND THE STRATEGIC POSITION OF THE UNITED STATES IN WHAT HE TERMS "WEST ASIA" AND THE NON-COMMUNIST WORLD. THE COMMITTEE MET IN THE AFTERNOON WITH THE IRANIAN FOREIGN MINISTER.

THE COMMITTEE ARRIVED IN TEHRAN ON JUNE 23RD ON THE THIRD STOP OF THEIR SEVEN NATION MISSION. DURING THEIR STAY THE IRANIAN GOVERNMENT PROVIDED THE DELEGATION WITH A MILITARY AIRCRAFT THAT MADE A SIX HOUR TOUR OF IRAN'S FRONTIERS. THE TRIP EMPHASIZED THE GEOGRAPHIC IMPORTANCE OF IRAN AND ITS BORDERS WITH THE SOVIET UNION, AFGANISTAN, PAKISTAN AND IRAQ, PLUS IRAN'S STRATEGIC POSITION AS GUARDIAN OF THE PERSIAN GULF, THE LIFELINE FOR A LARGE PORTION OF THE WORLD'S OIL.

THE COMMITTEE WHICH WAS FOUNDED IN 1974 TO STIMULATE CITIZEN INTEREST IN AMERICAN FOREIGN POLICY UNDER THE PRESIDENCY OF EUGENE F. FOLEY, A FORMER ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF COMMERCE, WHO IS ALSO A MEMBER OF THE DELEGATION, WILL LEAVE FOR DAMASCUS, SYRIA, ON SUNDAY JUNE 26

FOR TWO DAYS OF CONFERENCES WITH TOP GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS.
AFTER SIMILAR MEETINGS IN EGYPT, CYPRUS AND ISRAEL
THE DELEGATION RETURNS TO NEW YORK AND WILL HOLD A PRESS
CONFERENCE ON JULY 25 AT 2:00 P.M. AT ONE ROCKEFELLER PLAZA,
ROOM 2400. A REPORT TO THE MEMBERSHIP WILL FOLLOW. END
QUOTE.

4. FOR CAIRO: DUE TEHRAN WEEKEND AND GROUP'S EARLY
DEPARTURE, CONTENTS DAMASCUS 3948 AND ANKARA 4827 NOT
RPT NOT PASSED TO GROUP HERE. DAMASCUS 3948 BEING REPEATED
TO YOU. PLEASE PASS BOTH CABLES TO FOLEY OR AMB. DUKE.
SULLIVAN

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